

### Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

#### Listing of Claims:

What is claimed is:

Claims 1 - 52 (cancelled).

53. (previously presented) A facsimile transmitting/receiving system comprising a standard facsimile machine and a computer based system in communication with said standard facsimile machine, the system comprising;

- an interface positioned intermediately of and in communication with both said facsimile machine and said computer based system;

- a line for receiving and sending facsimile signals in communication with said interface for selectively communicating directly with said facsimile machine and said computer;

- means for converting encoded documents to formats compatible with computer supported systems and with said facsimile machine;

- wherein said means is further adopted for converting facsimile signals to a format for transmission over distributive communication networks and for converting network transmitted signals in a format for transmission over a facsimile transmission line; and

- wherein said interface further comprises one or more switches for selectively controlling electronic communication between (1) said line and said computer based system and (2) said line and said facsimile machine.

54. (previously presented) The facsimile system of claim 53, wherein said interface further comprises a first switch operable between an open position and a closed position, wherein said first switch in said closed position allows direct communication between said line and said computer based system.

55. (previously presented) The facsimile system of claim 54, wherein said first switch in said open position prevents communication between said line and said computer based system.

56. (previously presented) The facsimile system of claim 54, wherein said interface further comprises a second switch operable between an open position and a closed position, wherein

said second switch in said closed position allows direct communication between said line and said facsimile machine.

57. (previously presented) The facsimile system of claim 56, wherein said second switch in said open position prevent communication between said line and said computer based system.

58. (previously presented) The facsimile system of claim 56, wherein said line is in direct communication with both (1) said computer based system and (2) said facsimile machine when said first switch and said second switch are simultaneously in their respective closed positions.

59. (previously presented) The facsimile system of claim 53, further comprising a ring generator for initiating said facsimile machine.

60. (previously presented) The facsimile system of claim 59, further comprising a parallel switch for selectively activating said ring generator.